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- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **RANBAXY LABORATORIES LIMITED** [IN/IN]; 19, Nehru Place, New Delhi 110 019, Delhi (IN).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **KUMAR, Parveen** [IN/IN]; 95, Sector 11, Panchkula, Haryana 134112 (IN). **KATIAL, Vikas** [IN/IN]; #1381, Sector - 29, Noida, Uttar Pradesh 201303 (IN). **GIGRAS, Paresh** [IN/IN]; c/o Shri Jagdish Chander Jitender Kumar, Chauraha Gali, Muradabad, Uttar Pradesh 244001 (IN). **KUMAR, Sudeep** [IN/IN]; B-107 Alaknanda Apt., Rampuri, Surya Nagar, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh 201011 (IN). **SHUKLA, Aniruddha** [IN/IN]; #6148/5, Sector - D, Pocket - 6, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi 110070 (IN).
- (74) Common Representative: **RANBAXY LABORATORIES LIMITED**; c/o DESHMUKH, Jay, R., 600 College Road East, Suite 2100, Princeton, NJ 08540 (US).
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(54) Title: FERMENTATION PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF PRAVASTATIN

(57) Abstract: The invention relates to a fermentation process for the preparation of substantially pure pravastatin. The process provides a method of producing pravastatin by microbial hydroxylation of compactin (ML-236B) by maintaining a concentration of compactin at not less than 300 µg /ml during the process. The process produces substantially pure pravastatin with reduced related impurities. The invention also relates to pharmaceutical compositions that include the substantially pure pravastatin.

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